

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

GSA-01 OES-03 FTC-01 /091 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: USINJC, IN

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION - ACTION
PROGRAM

REF: STATE 15571

1. DEPARTMENT AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES WISH TO ENSURE
THAT MOMENTUM DEVELOPED DURING LAST WEEK'S MEETINGS OF
E/C SUBCOMMISSION IS NOT LOST. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF
ACTION PROGRAM DISCUSSED AT INTERAGENCY MEETING JANUARY 27
AND BASED ON COMMITMENTS MADE BY BOTH SIDES DURING SUBJECT
MEETINGS.

2. IT WAS AGREED THAT JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL SHOULD BE
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SET UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE EXPECTING FORMAL

APPROVAL SOON BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WHICH HAS ALREADY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO HELP FORM U.S. SECTION OF JOINT COUNCIL. ACCORDING AGREED MINUTES, FORMATION SHOULD BE ANNOUNCED BY MID-MARCH. WE ARE DEVELOPING LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS OF INTEREST FOR U.S. EXPORTS, U.S. IMPORTS AND U.S. INVESTMENT IN INDIA (SEE PARA 12 REFTEL) AND WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY INPUT. FINAL LIST (INCLUDING INDIAN SUGGESTIONS) WOULD THEN BE PASSED TO CHAMBER AS SUGGESTED GUIDE FOR FORMULATION MEMBERSHIP

JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL.

3. SUBCOMMISSION AGREED ESTABLISH SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE, TO CONCENTRATE ON PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY OF IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL INPUTS. ACCORDING AGREED MINUTES, FIRST MEETING THIS WORKING GROUP SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON AT EARLY DATE. IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE FIRST SESSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WELL IN ADVANCE OF SCHEDULED MEETING OF JOINT COMMISSION (MARCH 13-14). WE ANTICIPATE THIS COULD BE INFORMAL MEETING INCLUDING INDIAN EMBOFFS HERE AND APPROPRIATE U.S. OFFICIALS, DESIGNED INITIATE DIALOGUE ON AGRICULTURAL INPUTS. PLEASE ADVISE IF EMBASSY AWARE OF ANY CONTEMPLATED VISITS BY GOI AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS TO U.S. WITHIN NEXT MONTH. WE COULD TAILOR TIMING OF WORKING GROUP TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH A VISIT.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ASCERTAINING TIMING OF VISIT OF GOI TAX OFFICIALS TO U.S. (SEE PARA 20 REFTEL). ACCORDING INDIANS, VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE IN FEBRUARY. AGAIN, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ARE HELD ON PROPOSED TAX CONVENTION PRIOR TO JOINT COMMISSION MEETINGS.

5. WE ARE IN PROCESS OF DESIGNATING ACTION OFFICES AND CONTACT POINTS FOR INDIAN EMBASSY TO DEAL WITH MICA (EB/ISM) AND JUTE BALING PROBLEMS (AGRICULTURE).

6. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS CONTACT POINT FOR INDIAN EMBASSY HERE FOR EXCHANGE OF MARKETING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFORMATION. MORE PRECISE DESIGNATION WILL BE DECIDED SOONEST. YOU SHOULD ASK GOI TO DESIGNATE SIMILAR CONTACT POINT IN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OR ELSEWHERE.

7. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, INDIANS UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE FOLLOWING:

-- LIST OF PRODUCTS OF INTEREST FOR TARIFF PREFERENCES

UNDER TRADE ACT OF 1974.

-- SHORT LIST OF HIGH PRIORITY AREAS FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN INDIA.

-- INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION ON LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN INDIA.

-- A LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS RELATED TO FLOW OF TECHNOLOGY FROM U.S.

-- LIST OF PROPOSALS FOR THIRD COUNTRY COLLABORATION.

-- A REVIEW OF THE POTENTIAL FOR INDO-U.S. COLLABORATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN MINERAL RESOURCES.

8. WHEN REPORTS LISTED PARA 7 ABOVE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, WE WILL TAKE THE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP ACTION CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREED MINUTES. EMBASSY SHOULD PRESS GOI FOR SUBMISSIONS, SINCE WE WANT ACTION TO BE COMPLETED ON OUR SIDE BEFORE MARCH 13, IF POSSIBLE.

9. COPY OF MEMO OUTLINING PROGRAM IN DETAIL BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY (LANDE). WE WILL BE REVIEWING FOLLOWUP PROGRAM WITH GOI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON (ASRANI/RAMAKRISHNA) IN COURSE OF NEXT FEW DAYS. KISSINGER

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